## Women Veteran Businesses Selected to Participate in OMWBE Veteran Women's Business Assistance Pilot Program

OMWBE is pleased to announce a small but special pilot program designed specifically for veteran women owned small businesses. Through a cooperative effort with Department of Veterans' Affairs, invitations were extended to veteran women owned small businesses to compete for an opportunity to work with OMWBE for one year. During the pilot program OMWBE will identify resources necessary to grow their businesses and potential Washington state agency and educational institutions customers. The program will also assist in accessing financing or enhancing their financial management systems, if appropriate.

Our congratulation to the five firms that have been selected to participate in our Veteran Women's Business Assistance Pilot Program. They are:

Able Spaces Spokane WA Yvonne L. Welles, Owner Furniture products, needs assessment

EcoTech Recycling, Inc Kalama WA Renie Duvall, Owner Paper Recycling

McMath's Counseling and Consulting Services LLC Lacey WA Sonorra C. McMath, Owner Counseling, mediation ABN Technologies
Dupont WA
Trena Payton, Owner

IT design, project management, application development

Justrite Printing & Design Center, LLC Tacoma WA Janis Gbalah, Owner Printing, Graphics, Web Design

OMWBE is charged with assisting state agencies and higher education institutions achieve their women and minority goals. We serve as a catalyst for M/WBE firms to identify resources with our public and private sector partners that will assist in building capacity and sustained business relationships with their customers.

With this pilot program, these firms will also be afforded the benefits of having an advocate inside state government, increased visibility to government buyers, direct connection to opportunities in the public sector, a cabinet level agency with access to the Governor's Office and directors of state agencies, and potential eligibility for the Linked Deposit Program.

Cynthia Cooper, Director Cathy V. Canorro, Manager October 15, 2009